

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended): A method for enabling exchange of electronic data between market participants, the method comprising:

enabling a first market participant to configure one or more business rules, wherein each business rule is capable of being applied to a specific second market participant;

receiving electronic data from [[a]] the first market participant in a first format representing at least one business transaction that includes a request business transaction portion and an expected related response business transaction portion;

validating the electronic data representing the business transaction;

communicating to the first market participant receipt of the electronic data representing the business transaction and validation results of the electronic data representing the business transaction;

mapping the electronic data representing the business transaction from the first format to a standard format;

communicating electronic data representing the request business transaction portion to the second market participant;

receiving electronic data representing the expected related response business transaction from the second market participant;

matching the electronic data representing the expected related response business transaction portion received from the second market participant with the electronic data representing the request business transaction portion;

determining whether the electronic data representing the business transaction satisfies at least one configurable business rule, wherein the configurable business rule defines relationship information between the electronic data representing the request business transaction portion and

electronic data representing the expected related response for a subsequent business transaction portion;

establishing [[the]] electronic data representing [[the]] a subsequent business transaction based on the determination of whether the electronic data representing the business transaction satisfies the configurable business rule; [[and]]

monitoring a sequence of electronic data representing a series of related business transactions between the first market participant and the second market participant; and

enabling the first market participant and the second market participant to track a status of the electronic data representing the business transaction and the subsequent business transaction and the sequence of electronic data representing the series of related business transactions between the first market participant and the second market participant.

2. (cancelled).

3. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the configurable business rule is configured based on at least one of a jurisdiction associated with the electronic data representing the business transaction, a time relationship between the electronic data representing the ~~received~~ request business transaction portion and the electronic data representing the ~~subsequent expected~~ related response business transaction portion, and a business event associated with the electronic data representing the business transaction.

4. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising processing electronic data representing business transactions having different formats.

5. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising sending a message indicating that the electronic data representing the business transaction does not satisfy a configurable business rule.

6. (currently amended): An apparatus for enabling exchange of electronic data between market participants, comprising:

a memory; and

a processor coupled to the memory, wherein the processor is configured to:

enable a first market participant to configure one or more business rules, wherein each business rule is capable of being applied to a specific second market participant;

receive electronic data from [[a]] the first market participant in a first format representing at least one business transaction that includes a request business transaction portion and an expected related response business transaction portion,

validate the electronic data representing the business transaction,

communicate to the first market participant receipt of the electronic data representing the business transaction and validation results of the electronic data representing the business transaction;

map the electronic data from the first format to a standard format,

communicate electronic data representing the request business transaction portion to the second market participant,

receive electronic data representing the expected related response business transaction from the second market participant,

match the electronic data representing the expected related response business transaction portion received from the second market participant with the electronic data representing the request business transaction portion,

determine whether the electronic data representing the business transaction satisfies at least one configurable business rule, wherein the configurable business

rule defines relationship information between the electronic data representing the request business transaction portion and electronic data representing the expected related response for a subsequent business transaction portion,

establish [[the]] electronic data representing [[the]] a subsequent business transaction based on the determination of whether the electronic data representing the business transaction satisfies the configurable business rule, [[and]]

monitor a sequence of electronic data representing a series of related business transactions between the first market participant and the second market participant, and

enable the first market participant and the second market participant to track a status of the electronic data representing the business transaction and the subsequent business transaction and the sequence of electronic data representing a series of related business transactions between the first market participant and the second market participant.

7. (cancelled).

8. (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the configurable business rule is configured based on at least one of a jurisdiction associated with the electronic data representing the business transaction, a time relationship between the electronic data representing the received request business transaction portion and the electronic data representing the subsequent expected related response business transaction portion, and a business event associated with the electronic data representing the business transaction.

9. (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the processor is further configured to process electronic data representing business transactions having different formats.

10. (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the processor is further configured to send a message indicating that the electronic data representing the business transaction does not satisfy a configurable business rule.

11. (currently amended): An article comprising a computer-readable medium that stores executable instructions for enabling exchange of electronic data between market participants and causes a computer system to:

enable a first market participant to configure one or more business rules, wherein each business rule is capable of being applied to a specific second market participant;

receive electronic data from [[a]] the first market participant in a first format representing at least one business transaction that includes a request business transaction portion and an expected related response business transaction portion,

validate the electronic data representing the business transaction,

communicate to the first market participant receipt of the electronic data representing the business transaction and validation results of the electronic data representing the business transaction,

map the electronic data from the first format to a standard format,

communicate electronic data representing the request business transaction portion to the second market participant,

receive electronic data representing the expected related response business transaction from the second market participant,

match the electronic data representing the expected related response business transaction portion received from the second market participant with the electronic data representing the request business transaction portion,

determine whether the electronic data representing the business transaction satisfies at least one configurable business rule, wherein the configurable business rule defines relationship information between the electronic data representing the request business transaction portion and electronic data representing the expected related response ~~for a subsequent business transaction portion,~~

establish ~~[[the]]~~ electronic data representing ~~[[the]]~~ a subsequent business transaction based on the determination of whether the electronic data representing the business transaction satisfies the configurable business rule, ~~[[and]]~~

monitor a sequence of electronic data representing a series of related business transactions between the first market participant and the second market participant, and

enable the first market participant and the second market participant to track a status of the electronic data representing the business transaction and the subsequent business transaction and the sequence of electronic data representing a series of related business transactions between the first market participant and the second market participant.

12. (cancelled).

13. (currently amended): The article of claim 11, wherein the configurable business rule is configured based on at least one of a jurisdiction associated with the electronic data representing the business transaction, a time relationship between the electronic data representing the ~~received~~ request business transaction portion and the electronic data representing the

subsequent expected related response business transaction portion, and a business event associated with the electronic data representing the business transaction.

14. (previously presented): The article of claim 11, further comprising instructions for causing the computer to process electronic data representing business transactions having different formats.

15. (previously presented): The article of claim 11, further comprising instructions for causing the computer to send a message indicating that the electronic data representing the business transaction does not satisfy a configurable business rule.

16. (currently amended): A method for enabling exchange of electronic data between market participants, the method comprising:

accessing a system that is configured to:

enable a first market participant to configure one or more business rules, wherein each business rule is capable of being applied to a specific second market participant;

receive electronic data from [[a]] the first market participant in a first format representing at least one business transaction that includes a request business transaction portion and an expected related response business transaction portion,

validate the electronic data representing the business transaction,

communicate to the first market participant receipt of the electronic data representing the business transaction and validation results of the electronic data representing the business transaction,

map the electronic data from the first format to a standard format,

communicate electronic data representing the request business transaction portion to the second market participant,

receive electronic data representing the expected related response business transaction from the second market participant,

match the electronic data representing the expected related response business transaction portion received from the second market participant with the electronic data representing the request business transaction portion,

determine whether the electronic data representing the business transaction satisfies at least one configurable business rule, wherein the configurable business rule defines relationship information between the electronic data representing the request business transaction portion and electronic data representing the expected related response ~~for a subsequent business transaction portion,~~

establish ~~[[the]]~~ electronic data representing ~~[[the]]~~ a subsequent business transaction based on the determination of whether the electronic data representing the business transaction satisfies the configurable business rule, ~~[[and]]~~

monitor a sequence of electronic data representing a series of related business transactions between the first market participant and the second market participant, and

enable the first market participant and the second market participant to track a status of the electronic data representing the business transaction and the subsequent business transaction and the sequence of electronic data representing a series of related business transactions between the first market participant and the second market participant.

18. (currently amended): The method of claim 16, wherein the configurable business rule is configured based on at least one of a jurisdiction associated with the electronic data representing the business transaction, a time relationship between the electronic data representing the received request business transaction portion and the electronic data representing the subsequent expected related response business transaction portion, and a business event associated with the electronic data representing the business transaction.

19. (previously presented): The method of claim 16, further comprising processing electronic data representing business transactions having different formats.

20. (previously presented): The method of claim 16, further comprising sending a message indicating that the electronic data representing the business transaction does not satisfy a configurable business rule.

21. (currently amended): An apparatus for enabling exchange of electronic data between market participants comprising:

a memory; and

a processor coupled to the memory, wherein the processor is configured to access a system that is adapted to:

enable a first market participant to configure one or more business rules,
wherein each business rule is capable of being applied to a specific second market
participant;

receive electronic data from [[a]] the first market participant in a first
format representing at least one business transaction that includes a request
business transaction portion and an expected related response business transaction
portion,

validate the electronic data representing the business transaction,
communicate to the first market participant receipt of the electronic data representing the business transaction and validation results of the electronic data representing the business transaction,

map the electronic data from the first format to a standard format,
communicate electronic data representing the request business transaction portion to the second market participant,
receive electronic data representing the expected related response business transaction from the second market participant,

match the electronic data representing the expected related response business transaction portion received from the second market participant with the electronic data representing the request business transaction portion,

determine whether the electronic data representing the business transaction satisfies at least one configurable business rule, wherein the configurable business rule defines relationship information between the electronic data representing the request business transaction portion and electronic data representing the expected related response for a subsequent business transaction portion,

establish ~~[[the]]~~ electronic data representing ~~[[the]]~~ a subsequent business transaction based on the determination of whether the electronic data representing the business transaction satisfies the configurable business rule, ~~[[and]]~~

monitor a sequence of electronic data representing a series of related business transactions between the first market participant and the second market participant, and

enable the first market participant and the second market participant to track a status of the electronic data representing the business transaction and the subsequent business transaction and the sequence of electronic data representing a

series of related business transactions between the first market participant and the second market participant.

22. (cancelled).

23. (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the configurable business rule is configured based on at least one of a jurisdiction associated with the electronic data representing the business transaction, a time relationship between the electronic data representing the ~~received~~ request business transaction portion and the electronic data representing the subsequent expected related response business transaction portion, and a business event associated with the electronic data representing the business transaction.

24. (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the processor is further configured to process electronic data representing business transactions having different formats.

25. (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the processor is further configured to sending a message indicating that the electronic data representing the business transaction does not satisfy a configurable business rule.

26. (currently amended): An article comprising a computer-readable medium that stores executable instructions for enabling exchange of electronic data between market participants and causes a computer system to:

view a business transaction from a system that is configured to:

enable a first market participant to configure one or more business rules,
wherein each business rule is capable of being applied to a specific second market participant;

receive electronic data from [[a]] the first market participant in a first format representing at least one business transaction that includes a request business transaction portion and an expected related response business transaction portion,

validate the electronic data representing the business transaction,
communicate to the first market participant receipt of the electronic data representing the business transaction and validation results of the electronic data representing the business transaction,

map the electronic data from the first format to a standard format,
communicate electronic data representing the request business transaction portion to the second market participant,

receive electronic data representing the expected related response business transaction from the second market participant,

match the electronic data representing the expected related response business transaction portion received from the second market participant with the electronic data representing the request business transaction portion,

determine whether the electronic data representing the business transaction satisfies at least one configurable business rule, wherein the configurable business rule defines relationship information between the electronic data representing the request business transaction portion and electronic data representing the expected related response ~~for a subsequent business transaction portion,~~

establish [[the]] electronic data representing [[the]] a subsequent business transaction based on the determination of whether the electronic data representing the business transaction satisfies the configurable business rule, [[and]]

monitor a sequence of electronic data representing a series of related business transactions between the first market participant and the second market participant, and

enable the first market participant and the second market participant to track a status of the electronic data representing the business transaction and the subsequent business transaction and the sequence of electronic data representing a series of related business transactions between the first market participant and the second market participant.

27. (cancelled).

28. (currently amended): The article of claim 26, wherein the configurable business rule is configured based on at least one of a jurisdiction associated with the electronic data representing the business transaction, a time relationship between the electronic data representing the ~~received~~ request business transaction portion and the electronic data representing the ~~subsequent~~ expected related response business transaction portion, and a business event associated with the electronic data representing the business transaction.

29-34. (cancelled).